

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application. The present status of each claim is indicated in parentheses following the claim number. An instruction line precedes each claim that is amended, cancelled, or added by the instant paper.

Please **amend** claim 138 as follows:

138. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A clear aqueous solution
comprising;

(i) a first material selected from the group
consisting of ~~a bile acid, an aqueous soluble
derivative of a bile acid, an aqueous soluble~~
bile acid salt, a bile acid conjugated with an
amine by an amide linkage, and combinations
thereof;

(ii) a second material selected from the group
consisting of an aqueous soluble starch
conversion product and/or an aqueous soluble non-
starch polysaccharide; and

(iii) water,

wherein the first and second materials both remain in
solution for all pH values of the solution within a

... ..
selected range of pH values ~~and the solution is free~~
~~of alcohol.~~

Please **amend** claim 139 as follows:

139. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The solution of Claim 138,
wherein the solution is selected from the group
consisting of a ~~syrup, syrup and~~ a thick syrup, ~~and a~~
paste.

Please **amend** claim 140 as follows:

140. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The solution of Claim 138,
wherein the bile acid portion of said first material
is selected from the group consisting of
ursodeoxycholic acid, chenodeoxycholic acid, cholic
acid, hyodeoxycholic acid, deoxycholic acid, 7-
oxolithocholic acid, lithocholic acid, iododeoxycholic
acid, iocholic acid, tauroursodeoxycholic acid,
taurochenodeoxycholic acid, taurodeoxycholic acid,
glycoursodeoxycholic acid, taurocholic acid, and
glycocholic acid, ~~their derivatives at a hydroxyl or~~

... ..
~~carboxylic acid group on the steroid nucleus, their
salts, or their conjugates with amines.~~

141. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The solution of Claim 138,
wherein the second material is selected from the group
consisting of maltodextrin, dextrin, corn syrup, corn
syrup solid, soluble starch, and dextrans.

Please **amend** claim 142 as follows:

142. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The solution of Claim 138,
wherein the solution comprises one or more additional
~~bile acids, aqueous soluble derivatives of bile acid,~~
bile acid ~~salts,~~salts and amine-conjugated bile acids
conjugated by an amide linkage.
143. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The solution of Claim 138
further comprising an agent having anti-inflammatory
activity.
144. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The solution of Claim 138
further comprising an agent having analgesic activity.
145. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The solution of Claim 138
further comprising an agent having anticonvulsant
activity.

... ..

146. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The solution of Claim 138 further comprising an agent having prolonging survival time in hypoxic conditions.
147. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The solution of Claim 138 further comprising an agent capable of alleviating or ameliorating a condition selected from the group consisting of stomatitis, gingivoglossitis and toothache.

Please **amend** claim 148 as follows:

148. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A clear aqueous solution comprising:
- (a) a first material selected from the group consisting of ~~a bile acid, an aqueous soluble derivative of a bile acid, a bile acid~~an ursodeoxycholic acid salt, and a bile acidan ursodeoxycholic acid conjugated with an amine by an amide linkage, and combinations thereof;
 - (b) a second material ~~comprising an aqueous soluble starch conversion product~~which is maltodextrin;
and

... ..

(c) water,

wherein the first and second materials both remain in solution for all pH values of the solution within a selected range of pH values and wherein the weight ratio of the second material to the first material is ~~less than about 30:1~~ 25:1.

Please **cancel** claim 149.

149. (CANCELLED)

Please **cancel** claim 150.

150. (CANCELLED)

Please **cancel** claim 151.

151. (CANCELLED)